

Maryland SHIP "Health Action" Newsletter

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May 17, 2013

HSIA Website Launch

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The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Health Systems and Infrastructure Administration (HSIA) has a new website. HSIA was developed in 2012 in order to support and encourage health care reform and this platform serves its purpose by providing information and resources necessary to improve population health. The website offers news updates and details about upcoming events targeted to improving the health of Marylanders. Visit the new HSIA website for an overview of the types of activities HSIA has been involved with to promote progress in the following categories: access to care, provision of high-value coordinated health care, and greater integration of public health and medicine to focus on promoting health rather than responding to illness.

To visit the HSIA website, click [here](#).

Older Adults Report Increased Memory Loss



According to data just released from 21 states that used the optional Cognitive Module as part of the 2011 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

(BRFSS), 9.5% of adults aged 60 and over reported increased confusion or memory loss in the previous 12 months. Among those reporting increased confusion or memory loss, over 85% of Marylanders said they had not discussed these changes with a health care provider. Memory loss varied by population groups but was highest among those unable to work, individuals with disabilities, and Hispanics.

Memory problems are often the first signs of greater cognitive health issues, such as Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) and dementia including Alzheimer's disease. Maryland advocates

encourage early and accurate detection and diagnosis. Talking about memory problems and possible cognitive decline with health care providers enables earlier diagnosis, which in turn enables individuals and their families to plan for the future and allows for the better management of co-occurring chronic conditions.

To read the full Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) click [here](#).

To access the Maryland specific fact sheet click [here](#).

For more information on the Cognitive Module, or surveillance in general, contact [Catherine Morrison](#).

View the SHIP [measure](#) and [tools](#) to reduce the rate of hospitalizations related to Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

Youth Health and Leadership Summit Includes STI and HIV Prevention Information

"Your Health Matters! You Are Royalty" is the theme for the 2013 Youth Health and Leadership Summit which will be held on Saturday May 18, 2013 from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm at Jericho Christian College in Landover, Maryland. This free

event organized by the After School Institute and co-sponsored by DHMH, the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, BETAH Associates Incorporated, the Prince Georges County Health Department, and the Prince George's County Public School System will focus on information surrounding STI and HIV prevention.



Since HIV education, prevention, screenings, and treatment are essential in order to reduce the incidence of HIV in Maryland, efforts should be targeted toward sexual health. During this event breakfast and lunch will be provided and speakers will address leadership skills, health issues including STI/HIV prevention, self-esteem, teen pregnancy prevention and relationships to promote healthy lifestyles.

For more information about the Youth Health and Leadership Summit and for details about registration, click [here](#).

Visit the SHIP [measure](#) and [tools](#) to reduce new HIV infections among adults and adolescents and the [measure](#) and [tools](#) to reduce Chlamydia infections among young people.

May Is Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month



During the month of May, the DHMH Center for Cancer Prevention and Control is observing melanoma and skin cancer detection and prevention month. Individuals can reduce their risk for melanoma and other skin cancer by avoiding tanning devices, limiting exposure to sunlight, wearing sun-protective hats, clothing, and sunglasses with UV protection, and by using sunscreens and lip balms with a

SPF of 15 or higher when exposed to the sun. To support this effort, on Monday, May 6th 2013, the department participated in Melanoma Monday® in order to raise awareness of melanoma and other types of skin cancer, and to encourage early detection through self-exams. Friday May 24, 2013, the Center for Cancer Prevention and Control celebrates Don't Fry Day™ and reminds Maryland residents to protect their skin during this month and every day!

For more information about melanoma and skin cancer, visit the American Academy of Dermatology's website. Click [here](#).

Visit the SHIP [measure](#) and [tools](#) to reduce the overall cancer death rate.

News From the Office of Primary Care

FCC Rural Health Care Connect Fund Webinar to be Hosted in Maryland

The State Office of Rural Health (SORH), Rural Maryland Council (RMC), and Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA) are co-hosting a webinar on May 21st from 2:00-3:00 pm on the upcoming Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Rural Health Care Connect Fund presented by Mark Walker of Wireline Competition Bureau of the FCC. The Fund will provide \$400 M annually with a goal to increase access to broadband for health care provider. To register for the webinar click [here](#). For further information email [Taleah Parker](#).

21st Annual Medicaid Managed Care Congress

The 21st Annual Medicaid Managed Care Congress will take place May 20 - 22, 2013 at the Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor at Camden Yards. To register for this event and to learn more

click [here](#).

Health Centers to Help Uninsured Individuals Gain Affordable Health Insurance Coverage

The Health Resources and Services Administration issued a new funding source in the amount of \$150 million to help community health centers provide in-person enrollment assistance to uninsured individuals across the nation. With these new funds, health centers will be able to hire new staff, train existing staff, and conduct community outreach events and other educational activities. For information on applying for this funding opportunity click [here](#). For a list of health centers eligible to apply for this funding click [here](#).

Translating Veterans' Medical Skills into Nursing Careers

The Health Resources and Services Administration has funded a \$3 million program to help veterans get bachelor's degrees in nursing by building on their unique military and medical skills. The Veterans' [Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program](#) will fund up to nine cooperative agreements (up to \$350,000 a year). For information on applying for this funding opportunity click [here](#).